

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant's attorneys appreciate the Examiner's thorough search and remarks.

Claims 1 and 38 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Muessli in view of Mies et al. (Mies). Reconsideration is requested.

Muessli teaches a CFLP in which the power elements are placed in direct contact (without the aid of an intermediated thermal body) to the insulation part of a screw base. Col. 4, lines 58-65. Thus, Muessli calls for the following:

At the lower end of the printed board 41 the two switching transistors 48 are shown to the right and the left. They are arranged such that their cooling bodies rests against the base insulator 12. Accordingly, the lost heat generated in the switching transistors 48 reaches on the shortest possible path the metal fitting 11 which thus serves as a heat sink. Since the base insulator 12 is comprised of insulating material, other insulating measures are obsolete.

Mies teaches a CFLP in which the ballast circuit is formed on a thermally conductive plate P, and the plate is thermally connected to housing 6 by a thermally conductive paste mass D. Housing 6 is connected to screw base 3, and is made from a resin, see specification, page 3, line 25, such a polycarbonate, see specification, page 4, line 18. Thus, heat from the heat generating elements of the ballast is transmitted through the plate P, mass D, and housing 6 to dissipate. Note that the thermally conductive mass D is only in contact with the plate P, and, therefore, heat can only escape through plate P.

Thus, neither Muessli nor Mies teaches a direct thermal connection between the ballast and the screw base by a thermally conductive body. On the other hand, a CFLP according to the present invention includes a thermally conductive body that directly connects the ballast to the surrounding wall of the screw base, whereby the screw base wall can become a heatsink. It is submitted, therefore, that claims 1 and 38 should be deemed allowable over Muessli and Mies.

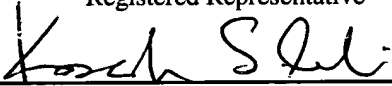
Claims 2-16 depend from claim 1 and claims 39-42 depend from claim 38. Each of these dependent claims includes other limitations, which in combination with those of its base claim are not shown or suggested by the art of record. Reconsideration is requested.

The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Such allowance is earnestly solicited.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 2, 2005

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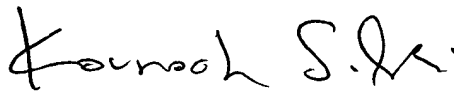
Signature

August 2, 2005

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Respectfully submitted,



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